

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the instant application in the view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks. Claims 2, 3, 5, 19, 20, 22, 35, 36 and 38 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and claims 1, 4, 6, 18, 21, 23, 34, 37 and 39 have been amended by this Response to provide clarification, better track current business practices, and/or correct minor informalities. Applicant maintains that the claims in their original form are in condition for allowance and explicitly reserve the right to add/pursue the claims as originally filed at a later date and/or in one or more continuation applications. Applicant submits that support for the amendments may be found throughout the originally filed specification, drawings and claims, and that no new matter has been added by way of this Response. Claims 1, 4, 6-8, 18, 21, 23-25, 34, 37 and 39-41 are currently pending.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 5-8, 22-25 and 38-41 overcome the art of record. (September 24, 2008 Office Action, p. 6, ¶ 2).

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 1-8, 18-25 and 34-41 based on the allegation that the bodies of the claims 1-2, 18-19 and 34-35 do not support the claims' preambles. Although Applicant respectfully traverses this objection and submit that the claim preambles are fully supported by the claim bodies, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 18 to provide clarification and to better track current business practices. Amended independent claims 1 and 18 recite, *inter alia*, "A wireless network authentication method" and "A wireless network authentication apparatus" respectively. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the Examiner's objection for claims 1 and 18, and claims depending therefrom, have been

overcome. Applicant further notes that claim 34 does not recite "facilitating authentication" in the claim preamble and, accordingly, Applicant submits that the Examiner's objection for this claim and claims depending therefrom has been overcome as well.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4, 18-21 and 34-37 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aura (U.S. Patent No. 6,711,400; hereinafter, "Aura") or, in alternative, over Aura in view of Netanel (U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0166398; hereinafter, "Netanel").

Although Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and submits that the pending rejection has not established a *prima facie* case of obviousness, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 18 and 34 to provide clarification and to better track current business practices. Applicant submits that support for the amendments may be found throughout the originally filed specification, drawings and claims and that no new matter has been added by way of this Response. Furthermore, Applicant maintains that the claims in their original form are in condition for allowance and explicitly reserves the right to add/pursue the claims as originally filed at a later date and/or in one or more continuation applications.

Amended claims 1, 18 and 34 incorporate aspects of dependent claims 5, 22 and 38 respectively, which the pending rejection has acknowledged as containing allowable material (September 24, 2008 Office Action, p. 6, ¶ 2), as well as of the intervening claims 2, 3, 19, 20, 35 and 36. Applicant submits that the cited references, taken alone or in combination, do not discuss or render obvious all of the elements of amended claims 1, 18 and 34. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this basis of the Examiner's rejection.

Furthermore, Applicant submit claims 4, 6-8, 21, 23-25, 37 and 39-41, which are directly or indirectly dependent from independent claims 1, 18 and 34, are also not discussed or rendered obvious by the cited references, taken alone or in combination, for at least similar reasons to those discussed above.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this ground of rejections.

Conclusion

In summary, Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 18, and 34 are patentably distinct from the cited reference for at least the reasons discussed above. Applicant submits that claims 4, 6-8, 21, 23-25, 37 and 39-41, which are directly or indirectly dependent from independent claims 1, 18, or 34 respectively, are also patentably distinct from the cited reference for at least the reasons discussed above.

As Applicant's remarks with respect to the Examiner's rejections are sufficient to overcome these rejections, Applicant's silence as to assertions by the Examiner in the Office Action or certain requirements that may be applicable to such rejections (e.g., whether a reference constitutes prior art, ability to combine references, assertions as to patentability of dependent claims) is not a concession by Applicant that such assertions are accurate or such requirements have been met, and Applicant reserves the right to analyze and dispute such in the future. Furthermore, although Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 18 and 34 herein, Applicant submits that the originally filed claims are also patentably distinct from the cited reference. As such, Applicant reserves the right to pursue the originally filed claims 1, 18 or 34, as well as claims directly or indirectly dependent on originally filed claims 1, 18 or 34, in one or more continuation application(s). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests

reconsideration/further examination of the instant application in view of the foregoing
Amendments/Remarks.